

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 190015
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 H-02 SCS-06 EB-08 HA-05
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DRAFTED BY AF/W:DMCELHANEY:IW
APPROVED BY AF/W:RGHOUDEK
USDOC/ITA/BED:MCHITTUM
AF/EP:WLGALLAGHER
H:GLANPHER (INFO)
SCS:SDOBREHCHUK (INFO)
AF/W:RKOTT
EB/OCA/CD:WRAU
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
COMMERCE

-----117231 280852Z /15

R 272102Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

UNCLAS STATE 190015

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST-CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON, SENATOR WILLIAMS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, BN

SUBJECT: A.W. CROSS SHIPMENT IN COTONOU

,
1. STAFFER IN SENATOR WILLIAMS' OFFICE CALLED AF/W JULY 26,
AND CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON CALLED PERSONALLY JULY 26, IN PRE-
SENCE HIS OFFICE OF A.W. CROSS SR., OF A.W. CROSS, INC.,
BOX 696 BORDENTOWN, NEW JERSEY, (TELEPHONE 609-298-5800), A
FIRM CURRENTLY DOING BUSINESS WITH TECTONICS CONSTRUCTION
COMPANY IN NIGERIA. ON MARCH 20, 1978, A VESSEL CHARTERED
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BY CROSS OFFLOADED CARGO DESTINED FOR NIGERIA IN COTONOU,
CONSISTING OF THREE MICHIGAN FRONT END LOADERS,
LABORATORY ROLLERS, 6 PALLETS OF SPARE PARTS, AND 160,000
CASES OF BEER AND SOFT DRINKS.

2. CROSS RELATED TO AF/W THAT FOR LEGAL REASONS, HE DOES
NOT WANT SHIPMENT SENT TO NIGERIA, AND NEEDS TIME TO

ARRANGE FOR EVERYTHING BUT BEVERAGES (WHICH HAVE BEEN SOLD LOCALLY) TO BE FORWARDED TO ANOTHER PORT (NOT NIGERIA). THE PROBLEM APPEARS TO BE THAT SONATRAC (GOVERNMENT SHIP-PING FIRM) HAS TOLD MICHAEL CROSS (SON OF A.W. CROSS) PRESENTLY IN COTONOU EITHER TO SHIP THE GOODS TO NIGERIA OR PAY CUSTOMS IN COTONOU.

3. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS THAT EMBASSY, IF THEY FEEL IT APPROPRIATE, INQUIRE AS TO THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEM WITH PORT OFFICIALS. AF/W HAS TOLD MR. CROSS THAT EMBASSY CANNOT PLACE ITSELF IN THE POSITION OF REPRESENTING HIS COMPANY TO GPRB OFFICIALS, BUT THAT DEPARTMENT WOULD INFORM THE EMBASSY AND REQUEST THEIR GUIDANCE, AND APPROPRIATE FOLLOWUP ON THIS MATTER.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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TAGS: BDIS, DM
To: COTONOU
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